

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR RUPP: We have the competition coming in across the river. We have Ak-Sar-Ben moving now to Sunday racing. Columbus will attempt to compete head to head with Ak-Sar-Ben and Sunday racing this year I think for five Sundays and, quite frankly, those were the only days we really made any money at Columbus. Now that we are competing with Ak-Sar-Ben, we will be back in the red again and we won't be making any money I don't think. So without help in the form of this bill, I think it is going to be a matter of survival. We need this help badly. I guess I would close with this analogy that if we had put the five race tracks up as a series of dominoes, Atokad and Columbus are not the last two dominoes to fall. They are the first two. They are the first two and I want you to understand that very clearly. And again I am sure we will advance this today or at least I hope we will. We will have a long discussion on this on Select File and we will separate the issues, or more importantly, we will separate the tracks because it is not fair to compare Atokad or Columbus to Ak-Sar-Ben or the State Fairgrounds where they have other tax breaks or Grand Island. With that I would urge you to advance the bill today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: An amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the bill. (The Chambers amendment appears on page 1694 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I hope those who have an interest in this bill will listen, and I hope those who have an interest in racing in general will listen. I hope those who have an interest in gambling will listen, and I hope those who have an interest in how the state takes in revenue will listen. Everybody ought to be in there somewhere. The way the law is now when these tracks pay their taxes, they do it, if you look on page 2 in lines 18 through 21, "The tax imposed by this section shall within ten days after the close of each race meeting be paid into the state treasury for deposit in the state General Fund." What I would like to do is amend that language so that at the end of each month their taxes